

From: Paul Colley
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/10/01 7:54pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern,

I would like to express my deep disappointment with the proposed settlement of the Microsoft Anti-Trust case.

First and foremost is that Microsoft has been found guilty of breaking the law and they are not being penalized in any way. There is no fine or compensation to cover ill-gotten gains. There is only a list of "restrictions", many of which Microsoft has been told to obey before and which have been totally ignored.

Secondly there is grossly inadequate ongoing oversight of Microsofts practices. A three-person team to be located and paid by Microsoft removes much of the teams credibility. The fact that Microsoft chooses one of the members and has veto over the selected of another makes for even less credibility. The severe restrictions on who the team can speak to and the sheer scope of what must be scrutinized means there may as well be zero ongoing enforcement.

Finally, the fact that Microsoft gets to decide who is a viable "business" and therefore who it must share it's source with means that they can totally ignore and undermine their only serious competitors in any number of areas. The most obvious example is the Open Source Software movement that is clearly not a "business."

Please read the following responses to the proposed settlement for further detail as to its fatal flaws:

Ralph Nader
<http://www.cptech.org/at/ms/rnj12kollarkotellynov501.html>

Robert Cringely
<http://www.pbs.org/cringely/pulpit/pulpit20011206.html>

Thanks,
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